PRESIDENT TO PASS ON PASSPORT CHARGE: BERNSTORFF TO GO

Wilson Will Take Up Alle- Judge Charles E. Terry vations of Violation of Diplomatic Ethics-Embassy Calls Accusations "Blackmail."

WARHINGTON, March 1-President lern personally will pass upon all of a allegations against officials of the soman Embassy that they have pertently violated diplomatic ethics and the neutrality of this Government.

This has been decided, but it was emphatically denied today that there was any intention of making an issue of these ar any other charges. If it shall be shown that any of these officials have allined the United States' hospitality the facts in the case will be presented to the German Government, and it will deide for liself what it wants to do. It was stated today at the Departments

of State and Justice and at the White House that the investigation of the sflegation that Captain Boy-Ed, naval attache, and Captain von Papen, milltary attache of the German Embassy, is still far from finished. The German bassy has officially characterized the allestation that its officials have been maintaining a secret service bureau here and dealing in fraudulent passports as "blackmall," and its statements will have scent weight officially.

Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, has been summoned to Berlin to report to his Govern-ment on questions affecting Germany and the United States, according to informa-tion received here from authoritative sources, information, it was said, that Count you Bernstorff would not return to his post here, as his successor had already been selected.

BRUMBAUGH ASSURES "SQUARE DEAL" FOR CITY IN LEGISLATION

Governor Returns to Capital After Consultation With Mayor Blankenburg on Philadelphia's Interests.

[VROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.] HARRISBURG, March 1.—Governo Brumbaugh returned to Harrisburg to day, pledged to see to it that Philadelphia gets a "square deal" on all legislation af-fecting that city. The repeal of the housing code and the substitute measure, the McNichol election bills, abolition of dual effice holding and measures to increase the city's revenues will all be before the Legislature when it reconvenes tonight after a 10-days' recess, and it is these measures in particular that the Governor has promised to give careful considera-

The Governor was in close touch with Mayor Blankenburg in Philadelphia during the week-end, and he has brought back to Harrisburg a detailed plan of pro-posed legislation affecting Philadelphia which the Mayor would like to have passed. The Governor has also received objections against the repeal of the housing code and the substitution therefor of the bill drafted by the Republican Organimation. He has also been asked to refuse to sign the McNichol election bills prohibiting fusion and taking the police ou

The Governor has agreed to give these objections his most careful consideration, and to hear all arguments before he either signs or vetoes the measures. The fight on the housing code repealer and the new bill will start in earnest to-

night. The Organization leaders are planning to rush the measures through this

The Philadelphia Housing Commission and the present city Administration in Philadelphia will lead the fight against the measures. They have already requested the Governor to veto the repealer and the new code, and representatives of the commission and of the city administration will come to Harrisburg tonight to fight the measures. The new bill is on the calendar for second reading in the

House tonight. The Senate Committee has promised to grant a hearing to Director of Health and Charities Ziegler and the Housing Commission. This hearing will be held some time this week. Unless Senators Vare, McNichol, and

Crow return from Florida early in the week, little but routine legislation will be acted on. The most important of the measures that will make their appearance this week is the general appropria-

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast

WASHINGTON, March 1. For Eastern Pennsylvania and New Fair tonight and Tuesday;

moderate northwest winds.

A large area of high barometer covers
the country from the Rocky Mountains
custward to the Atlantic coast and fair weather and seasonable temperatures pre-vail in all of the districts under its in-mande, except that the temperatures are silarity below the normal in the southern states. A disturi see of moderate energy everspreads the Rocky Mountains and platrau districts and the Pacine States. A slight reaction to warmer is reported from the Lake region, but the tempera ness have not risen above normal con-

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin



TRIAL OF CLAY, WALL AND WIGGINS IS PUT OVER UNTIL APRIL

Refuses to Sit in Case Because of Lack of Time and Issues Order for Rehearing of Case.

Judge Charles E. Terry, of Wyoming County, sprung a surprise on prosecution and defense alike today by refusing to preside at the second trial of Henry Clay, former Director of Public Safety; John R. Wiggins and Willard H. Walls, contractors, accused of conspiracy to defraud the city of about \$100,000. The reason given by Judge Terry was that he cannot stay here more than two weeks. The juriet made a peremptory order for the opening of the trial the first Monday in April, on the motion of Assistant District Attorney Joseph A. Taulane. This order was in the nature of a victory for the District Attorney's office. George S. Graham, chief counsel for Clay, Wisnins and Walls, bitterly opposed the court's order as unfair to the defendants.
Clay stalked nonchalantly into the Court of Quarter Sessions, Room 653, City Hall, at 10 o'clock for the trial. He smiled right and left to the scores of politicians who filled every seat in the room and overflowed into the corridors The former director took a seat well up toward the bar, alone, Wiggins and Walls sat together in the front row. Walls was nervous. Wiggins and Clay both seemed indifferent as the jurymen While this formality was under way, a

report spread through the room that the trial would be postponed, but it was given little credence. Judge Terry then took his seat and called Mr. Graham with District Attorney Samuel P. Rotan and hie assistant, Mr. Taulane, to a alde bar conference. After this the Judge made the following statement:

"In consideration of the importance and interest of this case, I want to say that was called here to stay two weeks. No intimation was given me that this case was to be a longer one. I understand the first trial took four weeks and that this is likely to be as long, or longer. If I had been informed of this I would have said at once that I could not hear it, because I cannot stay here that long and therefore I cannot try this case.

You may take the case before one of your Judges and have a time set for the opening of the trial. We will make no

rder on this." District Attorney Rotan then asked the lurist if he could return later, after dis-cosing of cases before him in the coun-les of Wyoming and Sullivan. Judge Ferry said this would be impossible, and the District Attorney, after some further parley, gave formal notice to the de-fense that the case would be called again for trial the first Monday of April.

DEFENSE MAKES KICK. After Mr. Graham had declared that in ccepting this notice he reserved all his rights for objection, Assistant District Attorney Taulane made a motion for a peremptory order for the beginning of the trial the first Monday in April.

This order was made by Judge Terry ifter a short, sharp argument between Graham and Taulane, the former declar-ing it seemed to put the blame for the delay in the case upon the defense, when o one was to blame.

Counsel for the defense, in addition to Mr. Graham, were Joseph Gilfillan, a forer Sheriff, and Charles S. Wesley, At the first trial, in addition to those named. Chester N. Farr and William A. Glasgow represented the defense. Crawford B. Henning, a former Assistant City Solici-tor, who helped work up the case against Clay, Wiggins and Walls, has been re-tained as special counsel by the District Attorney's office.

Clay spoke briefly to his counsel after the case was disposed of, and then left the courtroom alone. He walked slowly from the sixth floor down the stairway to the street, where he faced a battery of news-paper cameras. This kept up until he had crossed South Penn Square into South

CLAY LOSES TEMPER Suddenly Clay lost his temper and rushed at a photographer, as though in-

tent on halting the picture taking. The photographer eluded him and then a companion escorted Clay into the West End Trust Building. Reserve bluecoats in South Penn Square laughed openly in enjoyment of the incident. Clay always has been cordially disliked by the police, who say he was a tyrant when he held office. The calling of the case today brought about a gathering of Organization clams on the sixth floor of City Hall. The corrider looked like a meeting of ward politicians. Long before 10 o'clock, it was jammed with men and after Judge Terrs took his seat the courtroom became so packed that only those who could give od reason were permitted into the

Neither the defense nor the prosecution yould say what jurist will preside at the trial when it is called in April. General opinion in the court room was that another out-of-town Judge would be sent for. The first trial was heard by Judgo Staples, an up-State jurist. No one cared to express an opinion on why the case

a not handled by a local judge. The three men were convicted February 1912, on the same charge, but a new trial was granted by the Superior Court





The former Director of Public Safety is shown as he left City Hall today following the decision of Judge Terry not to begin his second trial on a charge of defrauding the city until the first Monday in April. Mr. Clay charged the camera men, who fell back without in some disorder.

in which time an enormous amount of technical documentary evidence was introduced. Both sides are prepared for the present trial with bales of charts, blueprints and specifications.

ZILENZIGER EXEMPTED The only figure missed today was that of Carl B, Zilenziger. City Architect under Clay. Zilenziger was acquitted at the first trial. He had been indicted jointly with Clay, Wiggins and Walls.

One new set of contracts may be brought into the present trial in addition to the three on which the men were found guilty. The indictments charge consultance to defrend the city in the

conspiracy to defraud the city in the erection of the fire station at 2d and Race streets and a police and firehous

SEAMEN'S BILL OPPOSED BY COMMERCIAL BODIES

Strong Protests Filed With President Wilson.

Protests against the seamen's bill, nov in the hands of the President for his signature to make it a law, have been filed by the various commercial bodies session of Congress. The bill in many respects is similar to that which President Taft "pecket vetoed" shortly before he left office. of the city, during the past and present In the Maritime Exchange's protest it

was claimed that the bill inflicted various obligations upon vessel owners which would eventually drive them from busiess. It was stated that the cost of operating a vessel under the American flag would be so greatly increased that a wholesale transfer to foreign registry could be expected. The bill increases the number of men vessels shall carry and also indirectly increases the wages of

the seamen. In addition to this, it is said, the placin addition to this, it is said, the plac-ing of foreign vessels under the same crew classifications as American boats is a violation of treaty rights which will involve this country in zerious interna-tional entanglements. This section of the bill, according to shipping men here, was fostered by the seamen's unions. It gives them indirectly considerable arbitrary powers. Seamen can demand and receiv under it half of their wages whenever he reaches port. Then, it is contended the unions can induce a foreign seaman to desert. The master of the vessel is then compelled to hire another man in his place at the rate of wages prevailing at the port at the time.

In American ports this is higher than foreign ports. Therefore, it is asserted, a foreign seaman collecting one-half of his wages from one ship can sign on another in place of a man who has also deserted. making money by the change.
Secretary Sherwood, of the Maritime

Exchange, said this morning that he hoped to see President Wilson veto the bill, just as his predecessor had vetoed which confronted him before he relinquished his office.

F. J. DREER ESTATE DECISION

Supreme Court Acts on Appeal in

Case Involving War Revenue Act. WASHINGTON, March 1 .- The United States Supreme Court rendered another decision today construing the war revenue act of 1898. The court decided that a residuary trust estate, not ascertained and paid over to the executors before July 1, 1902, the date on which the war tax law was repealed, was not taxable. The decision was on an appeal by the Government from an adverse decision by the Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of the Estate of Ferdinand J. Dreer, of

protruding through the bottom of a large wooden bucket groped his way into the Belgrade and Clearfield streets station and asked the police to extricate him from the lumber. Incidentally, he were a black eye and a few bruises. When he had been separated from the pail, he said his name was David Brumm, and explained that his presence in the interior of the bucket was due to a misunderstanding with his part-

According to Brumm, he and the partner made a practice of "touching" easy housekeepers for small bousehold articles, with the plea that they needed them at home. Every day they usually "rounded up" collections of dishpans, basins, cups, saucers, knives, forks, buckets and other things. If any old clothing was offered it was not refused.

The old stuff was repaired and then

The old stuff was repaired and then sold at easy prices to housekeepers who needed odds and ends. The men did their repairing work in an abandoned stable. While they helped each other in the repair wors, asch kept the proceeds of his own horvest. Prequently Brumm had a chance to sell a bucket ov a pan which was not in his stock. When his partner and the article desired a swap would be able and by this plan such could accummand the customers. The may were the street. Pusseraby were watching the struggle when two policemen arrived. They tried to pull the men apart, but their afforts were futtle. Finally, the cops summoned four speciators, and, by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. The stranger, who gave his name as I. Martin, of she and Callowhill streets, was taking. He was sent to fail by massive the control of the stranger who gave his name as I. Martin, of she and Callowhill streets, was taking. He was sent to fail by massive the control of the stranger was a summoned four speciators, and by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. They tried to pull the men apart, but their afforts were futtle. Finally, the cops summoned four speciators, and by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. They tried to pull the men apart, but their afforts were futtle. Finally, the cops summoned four speciators, and by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. They tried to pull the men apart, but their afforts were futtle. Finally, the cops summoned four speciators, and by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. They tried to pull the men apart, but their afforts were futtle. Finally, the cops summoned four speciators, and by tug-of-war methods, the combatants were separated. The stranger was a summoned four speciators, and the combatants were separated.

A rather ranged man with his head started. It ended quickly when Brumm' started. It ended quickly when Brumm's partner broke the bucket over his head and thoughtlessly left him in it.

Brumm had barely finished explaining matters when his partner, Thomas Seaver, was brought in by Policeman Knott for disorderly conduct. Seaver asked to be placed in the same cell with Brumm, but his request was refused. Magistrate Glenn sent both to the House of Cor-Glenn sent both to the House of Correction.

"I'd like to have some wrapping paper." said a strange man who satered the store of Michael Alacknowics, at 3172 Richmond of Michael Alacknowics, at \$172 Richmond street. But when the proprietor turned his back to oblige the stranger, the latter grabbed a tray of lewelry. He didn't notice, however, that a mirror back of the counter reflected his action. In a moment Alacknowicz had a tight held on his neck. The stranger picked up a milk bottle, which was on the counter, and broke it over the proprietor's head. But Alacknowicz still clung to him and the men rolled to the street. ulled to the street.

SHIPS IN WITH TALES OF HEROIC STRUGGLES

The Lincolnshire Badly Damaged by Storm-Manchester Port Delayed by Ice.

Tales of heroic struggles against severe reather conditions were told by members of the crews of the steamships Lincolnshire and Manchester Port, in port to-day. The former, which came from the Philippines, ended an eventful voyage of nearly three months. She brought in the first cargo of Philippine sugar to arrive

here in a year.

During the voyage the steamship, which flies the British flag, fought her way through one gale after another and was damaged to such an extent that the officers at one time believed they would

have to abandon her.
On January 12, in the Mediterranean, hige seas swept over the Lincolnshire.
Ventilators and movable deck fittings were carried overbeard. Stanchions and rails were bent and broken like reeds.
A plate on the poor side was store in A plate on the port side was stove in, Jamming the steering gear. This placed the vessel at the mercy of wind and wave. Captain Part and the crew labored heroically until a temporary tsering gear was rigged. Four days later the vessel made Al-

giers, where repairs were made. There were four feet of water in the bliges. The Manchester Port left Manchester on February 8. She steamed slowly and on February 6. She steamed slowly and cautiously along the English coast to avoid mines. On February 13, 200 miles off Cape Race, a dense fog surrounded the vessel. Before it lifted Captian Scott found he was surrounded by a dense field of thick floe ice. It was slowly carrying the big steamship south of her usual course. After four hours of blind navigation he was able to bring the Mangation he was able to bring the Man-

chester Port into the open water. "90 IN THE SHADE" OFF

Performance Will Not Take Place at Forrest Theatre.

'Ninety in the Shade" got the cold shoulder on earth. Just now it is prob-ably enjoying the right sort of weather in the hereafter of theatrical failures Anyway, neither the musical comedy nor Marie Cabill and Richard Carle will ap-pear at the Forrest tonight.

Marie Cahill, who would naturally come to the assistance of her husband and man-ager, Daniel V. Arthur, says she has a cold; but yesterday's New York papers were full of the strike that the leading actors of the company called Saturday evening, when they alleged they could

The play, a rather elaborate one, with good cast, did not fare very well on groadway. In fact, it fared so badly hat Harry B. Smith, part author, appears to have installed a receiver. At any rate, after many "advances" to Mr. Arthur, the theatre (the Knickerbocker) was supposed to have taken charge of all receipts. Consequently Fred Walton, Victor Moriey, Edward M. Martindel and Pedro de Cordoba wrote a letter to the Fedro de Cordoba wrote a letter to the management of the theatre demanding a share in the day's receipts. The man-agement replied in the negative, objet-ing, it is said, to what was called "a held-up." The result was a dark house.
For a time the darkness will extend to the Forrest here in Philadelphia; naturally, through no fault of the local management. A readjustment of bookings will bring something new to the handsome playhouse on Broad street. handsome playhouse on Broad street in due course of time.

THE BLUE BUCKLE

Prinket With Odd Inscription Involved in Mystery.

A blue buckle, worn by a woman of rement, on board a translantic liner, is mainspring of a thrilling mystery ry which begins in the Evening the mainspring of a thrilling mystery story which begins in the Evening Lenden on Saturday, March 6. On that buckle there is an inscription, and behind the inscription is a fortune. The woman who wears it, the man she loves, and the other woman and the other man are all trying to solve the mystery of the simple blue buckle. The most canning devices of modern times, and the most subtle villainy conceived by the brain of man, are all involved in this breathlessly absorbing tale. The masters of the detective story and the masters of the mystery story have never written of the detective story and the masters of the mystery story have never written anything more fascinating than this tale. "The Blue Buckle" is its name, and the first obspaces will startle and fascinate Mrs. Brown, Signer's Descendant Dies

Mrs. Brown, Signer's Descendant Dies

Mrs. Catharine P. Brown, widow of
David S. B. Brown and great-granddaughter of John Morton, one of the signers of the Deciaration of Independence,
died yesterday at the home of her son-inlaw. Samuel L. Smedley, at Bala.

Mrs. Brown, who was 55 years old, was
the daughter of John and Susan Crosby
Morton, of Morton, Delaware County.
She is survived by three children, Mrs.
N. B. Haipes, who lives at the Hotel Morton, Atlantic City: Mrs. S. L. Smedley, of
lials, and J. Morton Brown of Liancesh.
The functat will be held tomorrow afterneon.

HENRY CLAY'S SECOND TRIAL POSTPONED MUCH SPEED, NO PRIVACY, IN ELKTON MARRIAGE MILL

Everybody Grins at Blushing Couples at Every Stage of Journey on "Honeymoon Express."

By a WOMAN REPORTER

Getting married, even under ordinary circumstances, is said to be an experience fraught with many embarrassments-one calculated to induce the paradoxical phenomenon of a burning sensation in the region of the collar and a correspondingly frigid one in the vicinity of the pedal extremities.

Getting married at Elkton, that Hymeneal hamlet compared to which the original Gretna Green would look like the Deserted Village at the cold break of dawn, is all this and a little bit more, and yet, despite this indisputable fact, thousand upon thousand of couples from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and New York flock annually in veritable droves to the little Maryland town to have the marriage knot tied.

Down at Elkton they say it is because the "crool, crool" laws of the above-mentioned States have put such silly, repre bensible restrictions upon marriage as an age limitation or a residence requirement "Any girl of 16," say they, proudly, "can

be married here inside of five minutes without the consent of her parents. We don't believe in restricting early mar-They don't, and it hasn't taken youthful

overs long to find it out. Starting at Broad Street Station at 2 clock in the morning, the Honeymoon o clock in the morning, the Honeymoon Express usually ships a goodly number of couples bound for Philadelphia's Greina Green. Furtively they buy their tickets. In husky tones the prospective bride-proom slips his 55 note under the ticket office window and murmurs in a scarcely audible whisper, "Elkton, please."

EVERYBODY GRINS. Why the deuce does that bally ass of : derk grin so openly and unabashedly? Vhat's wrong with Elkton? A man night be going there for almost any purpose. To visit a maiden aunt or to

sell a mowing machine. But the gateman? What in the name of Sam Hill is that asinine fool smirking at? Can't a man take a train to Elkton with his sister without becoming the butt of every humorous individual along the

The answer is: He can't, particularly if the "sister" wears a new willow plume nd straight-from-the-store patent leather The conductor who takes up the tickets,

oo, is a creature the quality of whose nercy is so strained as to be almost im-Elkton?" he says devilishly, in loud

and blatant tones and with a wicked gleam in his eye. "I'll let you know when you get there. Don't you worry." All of the passengers who aren't going to Elkton enjoy the conductor's fine dis-play of wit hugely. They crans their necks and nudge each other and make rude remarks. But this is as nothing ompared to the moment when the train

really arrives. All along the line the Honeymoon Ex-press has picked up couples. An express in name only, it halts at every little tank town and takes them on. In two-by-twos they come—an endless procession of pairs, embarking on a modern Noah's ark, as it

ENTER THE VULTURES. "All out for Elkton."

The conductor has not forgotten his promise. In ringing tones that penetrate the car from end to end he sings the phrase mockingly-once for every couple present. They rise-the prospective brides as pink as roses in June, the bridegrooms wearing a sheepish expression which they endeavor to pull into one of bull-dog

A small army of unfed vultures leaps upon them as they descend from the train. They are the bus brivers of the train. two rival companies that ply their nefari-ous trade between the station and the narriage license bureau and the min-

No questions are asked and none are necessary, seemingly. No man or woman ever came to Elkton alone, apparently. If they did they'd be arrested, doubtless. for violating a long-established custom of the country

And there is only one way of treating those who come in pairs. Without so much as a by-your-leave, they are hustled summarily into a machine of before the-flood construction. The driver having captured his prey-four ordinarily, or six, if he is lucky-relapses into a self-complacent taciturnity from which he does not recover until the time comes to murwhich is the highwaymen's price for abducting the helpless lovelorn

Meanwhile the engineers, the conductors, the passengers of the Honeymoon Express, lean half way out of their various compartments to witness the perormance. Mockingly they hurl benedic tions and good wishes-not to say giber and jeers-after the couples and even the engine modifies its hiss to a caressing chug. The dulcet tones of the motor horn, as the car proceeds slowly through the village announces the fact to the in-habitants that the Honeymoon Express is in, and the little girl, who was induced to come here under the delusion that the ceremony could be performed more guletly at Elkton than anywhere else, overcoat.

CLERK LINES 'EM UP. The deputy at the marriage license bureau-by name William G. Purnell-is a person as unfeeling as the railroad conductor. A man can't even get a marriage license in privacy at Elkton, If 12 couple come in on the express. Purnell lines the entire 12 up before him, like prisoners at the bar, and administers the oath in wholesale fashion. To the sentitive bridegrooms who protest he explains that this is necessary, for another train may come in at any moment and he can't take the chance of having his office awamped. Long practice has endowed Purnell with speed and two minutes is all the time he requires to issue the law's sanction.

Two ministers apparently have a p nopoly of the marrying business, and the suspiciously inclined might be tempted to believe that the ministers and the convey-ance companies had a facit understanding which worked to the mutual benefit of

At any rate no couple is ever consulted as to which minister they would prefer. The chauffeur assumes the responsibility. With dictatorial mien he piles them into his antiquated car again, whirls them to a little cottage, simifies with a commanding gesture that they are to enter, and waits with lordly air to cart them back to the station again.

Inside, the front parlor, the back parlor, the dining room and in summer time, the porch, are crowded with them. The

But that's Bilton for you.

to Be Married, the Parsons Perform Ceremony in Record-breaking Time. By a MAN REPORTER

With 5000 Persons a Year

The highest marriage rate per capita in these United States is attained in Elkton, Md., a town of 2000 inhabitants, where 5000 persons are married each year, Sociologically speaking, "can you

This little place, just south of the Mason and Dixon line, holds a time record for accomplishing the rite of matrimony. The average interim for making out a marriage license is two minutes (you have for it the word of Major Purnell, who issues 'em), and the normal time for performing the ceremony is three minutes (for which there is the evidence of the reporter's Ingelsoil). Miss Woman Reporter and the mere

Man Reporter found out about the Elk-ton marriage market by riding the bumpy road with a dozen couples who were passengers on the Honeymon Express one fine, cold day. In common with the elopers, we were charivaried by a trainful of fellow passengers when we left the car. We stammered "yes" when a chauffeur, waiting on the platform to grab us asked precipitatedly. "Want to grab us, asked precipitatedly: "Want a marriage license?" In common with the real, honest-to-goodness betrothed folk we were hustled into a waiting automobile. Our captor led us through a gauntbile. Our captor led us through a gaunt-let of rival jehus who had not been quick enough, and cried, "They're mine!" (meaning us) when the others tried to neize us.

CHAUFFEUR'S KINDLY ADVICE.

"The lady don't have to get out when we get to the office," the chauffeur explained as he jolted us in his car to the old brown Ceell County Court House. Arrived there, the men were lined up before Major Purnell's desk rail. A few seconds after they had sworn to tell the truth, a dozen licenses were in the pockets of a dozen proud but nervous men.

of a dozen proofe but nervous men.

A moment later we were on the way to a clerayman. "Goin' to Quiggs?" queried the man who sat beside me. I take it that he expected to be married by the Rev. Howard T. Quiggs, but if he did he was disappointed, for the cabman did not ask our preference. He converted to was disappointed, for the cabman did not ask our preference. He conveyed us to the Rov. John McElmoyle, who greeted us all unctiously as we entered. "How are you this morning?" he asked, and when the first couple handed him a license, he beamed. "This is a very important document." To Miss W. Reporter and myself he said pleasantly, "Your time will be in just a moment." Just a moment."

When our time came we quizzed the dominic a bit and learned the Elkton philosophy of marriage. "Any law that restricts marriage is a had law. Early marriages are best, for they give a married couple a chance to grow up together." That is the gist of Elkton's ideas on the subject.

NUISANCE FOR THE CLERK.

The County Clerk thinks differently, owever, because it is a nuisance to have to act as secretary to Cupid every time a train pulls in. For, while the benedict pays \$1 for a license and a Federal war pays at for a license and a Federal war tax of 10 cents, the clerk does not benefit. The annoyance of making out endless licenses is the reason Delaware passed a new law two years ago, the Major sald, requiring four days' residence and send-ing would-be elopers to the State farther

We sleaned from the records that June marriages are not especially numerous in the Maryland town. There were 255 wed-dings there last June, but October boasted four more. The winds of March brought the minimum figure for the year, 153. The month just past gave time for 200 wed-dings in its 22 marrying days. Twentyseven licenses one Saturday, is the record

seven licenses one Saturday, is the record for a day's work.

A lull is encountered after a couple have been wedded and transported back to the centre of the town, where they are given more than a slangy "once over." The benedicts look about for refreshment. We found a hotel opposite the railroad station, and a little oyster restaurant with three high stools at a lunch bar. In the latter we were scrutinized by the stoveside observers and smiled genially when a Dickens type of fat boy noked his the latter we were scrimined genially stoveside observers and smiled genially when a Dickens type of fat boy poked his head in the door to say. "They're just married." We bought sandwiches, fruit married." and crackers and ate them sitting baggage truck. Other couples did like-

Then we filed, two by two, into the station waiting-room. In the centre of station waiting-room. In the centre of the room stands a stove and round about it a fleer of rocking chairs. Having been married in much haste you have ample time to repent while waiting for the train. We surmised that the sentiments following marriage are too soft and duleet for utterance. Certain it is that 12 couples sat utterly speechless while they waited two hours for the 2:27 train. They stared at the floor, at the ceiling and into space. Finally, the train came and we boarded it amid snickers and whistered comments. Finally, the train came and we boarded it amid snickers and whispered comments. Our ears burned all the way home. Now, we've been to Elkton and been done by the Elktonites. We're ready to that it is the quick lunch counter

of matrimonial epicureanism. MARRIED AT ELKTON

200 Licenses Issued Last Month at Gretna Green.

ELKTON, Md., March 1.-The records in thec lerk's office at the Elkton court show that 200 marriage licenses were issued to out-of-State couples during the month of February, mostly to Pennsylvanians. Li-

censes issued today were as follows: Harion O. Jester and Ellen M. Long-him, Frank A. Vinnecomb and Margaret J. Haley and Rosso Torre and Josephine E. Duffy, all of Philadelphia; Raymond Ashton, Morristown, N. J., and Catharine T. Kenney, Philadelphia; Edgar B. Gibbs and Alberta M. Dickinson, Camden, N. J., and Joseph H. Wilson and Elizabeth C. McElroy, Wilmington, Del.

5000 TO INVADE LEGISLATURE 100,000 Signatures Appended to Local Option Petition.

A petition bearing 100,000 signatures will he presented to the Legislature at Har-risburg by 5000 Philadelphia church work ers, urging the passage of a county local option bill. The delegation to the Legista-ture will be the largest ever sent to that pody, and probably to any other body of

lawmakers.

"Billy" Sunday and all his campaign workers in this city will give their unqualified support to the petition, which is already in circulation. Preliminary plans have been made for the delegation and there are indications that there will be more than enough volunteers to make up the 500.

The delegation will be sent under the auspices of the 20 Protestant church districts of Philadelphia, delegates from which decided on this action at a meeting in the Central Young Men's Christian As-

LANCASTER STOCKYARD OPEN

County Free of Aphthous Fever-New Case in Dauphin.

Lancastrick Pa., March 1.—The Union Stockyards were respond today, having been closed since early in November by the aphthous fevor endemic. By moon sevon carleads of eatile from Virginia and West Virginia had been recoived.

Lancaster County is free of the disease. A new case is reported in Daupáin County.

STOTESBURY DEFENDS TRANSIT POLICY

Continued from Page One

a calumnious attack upon my personal integrity. I understand that Director Norris has instituated in a public Norris has instituted in a public speech that the heads or the Rapid Transit Company are scheming to be-tray the public interests for private

I denounce the accusation as absolutely false.

Intely faise.

I now repeat the statement which I made to the public press at the time when I reluctantly undertook the difficult task of reorganising the Rapid Transit Company, that I accepted this heavy responsibility solely as a civic duty and without a thought of personal gain.

His Honor the Mayor is a member of the Rapid Transit board and is thoroughly familiar with the policy which Mr. Mitten and I have pursued in our efforts to rehabilitate and reorganize this property. He knows that while we have endeavored with seme success to improve the public service during

we have endeavored with some success to improve the public service during the past three and one-half years, at the same time it has been our duty to protect the interests of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit stockholders, who in good faith have paid for their stock to the full par value thereof and have invested \$50.00,000 in this property.

My loyalty to the interest of the city of Philadelphia is well known and will bear comparison with that of the men who are noisily advertising their devotion to the public.

men who are noisily advertising their devotion to the public.

Had it not been for the injury which unwarranted and ill-advised attacks upon the credit of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, we undoubtedly would have been able in time, using intelligent business methods, to have given the city of Philadelphia the increased transit facilities which it desires upon a practical and solvent

desires upon a practical and solvent business basis. At our conference in May last this

At our conference in May last this was our expectation and desire, and is still, but I fear that this injury to our credit and the existing had financial conditions make the realization of this expectation at the present time impracticable, and I so expressed myself to his Honor the Mayor before leaving on my holiday.

(Signed) E. T. STOTESBURY.

The interchange of telegrams between the Mayor and Mr. Stotesbury yesterday only served to bring the transit situation nearer to a crisis, but it likewise placed the odium for the jugglery and political bickering which has delayed the Taylor program squarely upon the Republican Organization leaders in Councils.

In fact, Mayor Blankenburg in his telegram to Mr. Stotesbury specifically named

aram to Mr. Stotesbury specifically named "the contractor lord of Philadelphia (Senator McNichol) as the chief originator of Councils' initial plan for delay. The Mayor further gave the Transit company a clean bill of health, in so far as his knowledge as a director of the company was concerned.

was concerned. STOTESBURY'S TELEGRAM. The telegram to the Mayor from Mr. Stotesbury follows:

The Breakers, Palm Beach, Fla., Feb. 28, 1915, "Do you consider your course of action

straightforward and just to me when you permit members of your Cabinet to publicly make a personal attack on my integrity at a meeting at which you spoke, thereby virtually giving their slanderous remarks your approval?

"You, as a member of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Board, have been present at all board meetings, have assisted in shaping our policy and have voted your approval thereon.

"I call upon you therefore to exact."

"I call upon you, therefore, to openly take your stand, one side or the other. "E. T. STOTESBURY." The fact that Mr. Stotesbury used the

word "slanderous" in his telegram to the Mayor has been interpreted in Adminis-tration circles as indicative of the stand taken by the traction magnate. It is believed that his tologram sent to Presi-dent Mitten will show that he repudiates the "joker" ordinance.

the "joker" ordinance.

Mayor Blankenburg in reply declared that his first duty was toward the city of Philadelphia, but that whenever consistent with this duty he would use every effort to conserve the interests of the stockholders of the Rapid Transit Company by personally favoring a public denial of the insinuations made against the company. ompany.

Personally denying any part in the against Mr. Stotesbury P. R. T. management, the Mayor further asserted that had he been present when Director Norris spoke at the meeting in the Academy of Music he would have stated publicly that, so far as he knew. the Rapid Transit Company in no wise was responsible for the delay of Councils

ADVISED P. R. T. DENIAL. He further explained that he had requested Mr. Mitten, president of the comissue a collective denial over the signatures of the P. R. T. directors Saturday afternoon, but that, as many of the board were not accessible, nothing

of the board were not accessible, nothing could be done until today.

The Mayor strongly protested against the language used by Mr. Stotesbury in his message. The Executive said: "If you had been half as considerate of me as I have been of you in this unfortunate controversy you would not have used the language you did in your telegram."

Mr. Mitten carefully evented all news

Mr. Mitten carefully evaded all newsapermen yesterday, intending, it is bepapermen yesterday, intending, it is be-lieved, to issue his statement directly from his office today. None of the Mayor's cabi-net would comment on the sudden com-plications, and John P. Connelly, chair-man of Councils' Finance Committee, declared he would not be drawn into any controversy between the Mayor and Mr. Stotesbury. Stotesbury.

COUNCILS' LEADERS MEET. Mr. Connelly, with other leaders in Councils, met in Atlantic City yeterday, after telegraphic communication with after telegraphic communication with senators Vare and McNichol in Florida, to arrange for the program preparatory to action on the transit ordinance now pending. While the ordinance officially does not come before the Finance Committee, the leaders of this committee will be called on Thursday to make clear the Orcalled Orcalled

ganization's position on the transit controversy.

It was decided yesterday to draw up the ordinance in advance of Councils' meeting Thursday. Any amendment needed to make the ordinance fully legal will be made the ordinance fully legal will be prepared and printed in advance, so there will be no delay in passage of the bill The date of the election for one thing, i was agreed, will not be changed.

CLAUSE WILL BE CHANGED The principal change in the bill centres, bout the clause "based on the assessed about the clause "based on the assessed valuation of taxable personal property." which John G. Johnson, in an opinion last week, stated was illegal and would render the entire ordinance nugatory. The members of the Friance Committee indicated the chief consideration which has been holding them back is the threatened increase in the tax rate about the ncrease in the tax rate should the Tay-

for program be approved as a unit.

In a statement issued after the conference in Atlantic City, it was inferred that adoption of the plans as drafted by Director Taylor might mean an expenditure of admething like \$200,000,000

of the \$50,000,000 estimated by the Department of City Transit.

The Citizens' Committee of 1900 ap-Committee of 1900 appinted by Director Taylor last week to arry on the campaign against Counsits delay will meet this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock in the Boof Garden of the Hotel Adeiphia to make plans for a public demonstration Thursday when the "Take" ordinance will be brought up for consideration in Councils.

Russia Taxes Non-combatants LONDON, March 1,-A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says a war tax has been imposed on men immune from military service and who are under il years of age. The tax varies from 6 subles (thout

accume of more than the on the un-